

Collecting forest products from the Wayne National Forest has long been a popular pastime. It's an activity that provides families enjoyable outings to the forest while bringing home useful products. Any forest product collected for commercial purposes will require a special use permit.

Keep in mind, collecting products on private land without permission is trespassing and constitutes theft. Maps are available from Forest Service offices which show national forest ownership.

Fruits and nuts may be collected such as blackberries, raspberries, walnuts, hickory nuts, pecan, or rose hips for personal use. If you have any questions whether a particular activity requires a permit, please contact one of our offices.

One "fruit" which is often collected on the Forest are pinecones. People are welcome to collect pinecones which are often gathered by families for crafts and Christmas decorations.

Mushrooms make spring a favorite time of year for many Buckeyes. April is usually the peak season for collecting mushrooms. Morels and snakeheads are some of the more popular but there are several edible varieties.

Novices should consult books or an expert before eating any mushrooms they collect since many look similar and some can be toxic.

Mushrooms are the fruiting body of a fungi which grows as a mat layer in the top soil. The mushrooms we collect will naturally mature and release spores. Morels increase in size as they age and their growth depends on the moisture, temperature, and fertility of the soil.

There are no sure ways to find mushrooms. Generally if you've found them in an area in the past, they are likely to be there again. Enjoy the search as much as the picking.

Firewood may be collected only in specific areas and only with a Forest Product Removal Permit (FS 2400-1). A copy of maps of the areas where you are allowed to collect will be issued with the permit. We do require that the permit be purchased in person at one of our offices because we need original signatures.

Permits are NOT required if the person is currently camped on national forest land, and the firewood being collected is for campfire use only. Campfire wood is limited to the amount which can be carried by hand to the camp site. The wood collected can be ONLY DEAD AND DOWN. No standing trees may be cut - dead or alive, of any size. No wood can be taken home or taken to private land. All others must have a permit to collect firewood.

Forest Product Removal (Firewood) Permits

Each permit is \$20.00, and will allow the permittee to collect up to 4 CCF (hundred cubic feet of wood) which is approximately 5 standard cords. Each person is limited to ONE firewood permit per year. Whoever the permit is issued to needs to be of legal age (at least 18 years old.)

Firewood may not be moved outside the gypsy moth quarantine area or outside the emerald ash borer quarantine area. There are also maps for each district depicting areas closed to firewood harvest.

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Contact Us



The Wayne has three offices to serve visitors. Office hours are 8 - 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Athens Ranger District
13700 U.S. Hwy 33
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Phone: 740-753-0101

Marietta Unit Office
27515 State Route 7
Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: 740-373-9055

Ironton Ranger District
6518 State Route 93
Pedro, OH 45659
Phone: 740-534-6500

Federal relay: 1-800-877-8339
website: fs.usda.gov/wayne

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/waynenationalforest>



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Wayne National Forest
Gathering Forest Products



Forest Service

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